

which seem only to increase while layoffs grow and worker pay stagnates. Many of our constituents may be surprised to learn, however, that our Government allows corporations generous tax deductions for corporate pay. Meanwhile, the lowest paid worker in the company could be earning the minimum wage and be below the poverty level.

In granting such tax deductions, our Government is implicitly encouraging this type of excessive compensation. I believe that in giving business this tax deduction, we should expect something in return. This is why I introduced the Income Equity Act, H.R. 620. My bill would restrict the amount of executive pay that is tax deductible by linking the tax deduction of those who make the most at a company with the salaries of those who make the least. H.R. 620 would limit the tax deductibility of executive pay to 25 times that of the lowest paid full-time worker. For example, if the lowest paid worker in a company is a janitor who is paid \$10,000 per year, then any amount of salary paid to the CEO above \$250,000 would no longer be tax deductible as a cost of doing business.

My bill will not restrict the freedom of companies to pay its workers and executives as they please. H.R. 620 will, however, send a strong message that companies should look out for those at the bottom as well as those at the top of the income ladder. H.R. 620 would also raise the minimum wage from the current \$4.25 to \$6.50 per hour, making up for the loss in buying power the minimum wage has experienced.

The Income Equity Act would be an important first step in crafting Government policies that encourage responsible corporate citizenship. I do not seek to burden businesses, but they must realize that we all have roles to play in bridging the income gap. Today, I ask your support for the Income Equity Act, which is just one piece of what must be a comprehensive plan to restore working Americans' faith in our economy.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOHN N. HOSTETTLER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 27, 1996

Mr. HOSTETTLER. Mr. Speaker, due to a snow emergency in my district that began early March 19, 1996, I was unable to return to Washington, DC, until late evening on March 20, 1996. As a result of this unforeseen delay, I missed the vote on passage of House Concurrent Resolution 48. Had I been able to be here for these votes I would have voted "yea" on roll No. 70.

STEVEN REDDINGTON'S WINNING ESSAY

HON. MICHAEL PATRICK FLANAGAN

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 28, 1996

Mr. FLANAGAN. Mr. Speaker, the winner of the first annual Fifth Congressional District essay contest is Steven Reddington, a student in the Saint Priscilla School at 7001 West

Addison Street in Chicago. The principal of the school, Sister Joyce Roehl, is to be commended for allowing her students to participate in the contest.

Evidently, Steven Reddington has learned the lessons of his English faculty adviser, Ms. Corinne Schade, well. The contest asked students to write about an American invention of the student's choosing and describe how that invention impacted society. Over 100 schools in the Fifth District were invited to participate in the essay contest and my office received an overwhelming response. Out of all the essays received, Steven's was the only one that was written from the perspective of the inventor. He chose to write about Thomas Edison and his electric light bulb. Steven entitled his imaginative and inventive essay, "The Quest for Light."

I urge my colleagues to read Steven's essay. If you do, you will find a fine example of creative writing by a young man who may well make a mark in American literature in the 21st century. Steven Reddington's essay follows:

THE QUEST FOR LIGHT

(By Steven Reddington)

As the sun begins to set, the light in my laboratory grows too faint to work any longer. I must put away my work until tomorrow. Out on the street the arc lamps are lit to burn until the sun rises again. I have thought long about finding an artificial light, and each day my endless research takes me closer to my goal.

How the world would change with my invention. I can only imagine what it would be like to have light twenty-four hours a day. Life in the home would change dramatically. There would be no more going to bed when the room became too dark for seeing. Now I could read the morning newspaper in the evening while my children study or play games. One day would be so much longer. The economy would flourish. Factories could run all day and night producing more goods and employing new workers. In turn these workers would have more money to spend, and more time to spend it. This would open up a whole new world of nightly entertainment for people to enjoy. Now we could attend social gatherings and church services that before would only take place during daylight hours.

Picture what Grand Central Station would be like with thousands of glowing lights as passengers board the midnight trains to Boston. Hospitals could care for the sick, and perform life saving operations without the use of dim light given off by oil burning lamps. Fires from these type of lamps would no longer be a concern. All the lives and homes that would be spared if a new source of light could be produced. The benefits and use to humanity would certainly be worth all the painstaking hours of work that I have dedicated to this project. As I've always said, "One-percent inspiration and ninety-nine percent perspiration!"

It is now October of 1874, I believe I have finally realized my dream. At my laboratory in Menlo Park, New Jersey, I have before me a glass tube with a wire thread inside of it. Next, electricity flows through a wire and into the glass tube. The wire thread glows with heat, and the room is illuminated with a soft light. As I gaze with pride, I understand the effects this will have on the future of our everyday lives.

Now if I could give it the proper name. Maybe I should call it the Thomas Edison, or perhaps the Edison Bulb. No, I have it! I'll call it the light bulb. That would be a most fitting name!

TRIBUTE TO LT. COL. WILLIAM JOHN NICHOLS, U.S. AIR FORCE

HON. LARRY COMBEST

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 28, 1996

Mr. COMBEST. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the dedication, public service, and patriotism of Lt. Col. William John Nichols, U.S. Air Force, on the occasion of his retirement after a career of faithful service to our Nation. Col. John Nichols' strong commitment to excellence will leave a lasting impact on the vitality of our modern warfighters, commanding admiration and respect from his military colleagues and Members of Congress.

Colonel Nichols, a 1977 graduate of Cornell University and the Reserve Officer Training Corps, is serving his last day of a 15-month assignment as the special assistant for space, command, control, communications, and intelligence, and special operations programs, with the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Legislative Affairs.

Colonel Nichols' first duty assignment was to the 6931st Electronic Security Squadron, Iraklion Air Station, Crete, Greece, as a flight commander, from April 1978 through July 1980. John was then sent to Osan Air Base, Korea, where he headed intelligence collection operations in support of U.S. Forces in Korea. He was also responsible for U-2 intelligence collection operations during this 1-year remote assignment. In August 1981, John was reassigned to Headquarters Electronic Security Command in San Antonio, TX, where he managed tactical intelligence collection assets. Next Colonel Nichols was assigned to 13th Air Force at Clark Air Base, Philippines, from January 1983 to October 1984, where he was responsible for electronic combat programs throughout the Pacific region. In this capacity, John orchestrated the first ever involvement of electronic combat and intelligence assets into Cope Thunder air combat training exercises.

Colonel Nichols was next assigned as detachment commander for the 6947th Electronic Security Squadron in Key West, FL, where he led a 70-person intelligence operation providing key support to operations in the Caribbean Basin. After almost 3 years in this position John was assigned to RAF Mildenhall, England, in July 1987 as the operations officer for the 6988th Electronic Security Squadron. In this job he led a 200-person RC-135 airborne reconnaissance operation in support of theater and national intelligence collection requirements. In July 1990, he was reassigned to Air University in Alabama where he was a distinguished graduate and top performer at Air Command Staff College and where he earned a master of airpower art and science degree as a student in the first class of the School of Advanced Airpower Studies.

In July 1992, Colonel Nichols was assigned to the intelligence staff at Headquarters U.S. Air Force in the Pentagon. He quickly moved to the Air Force Secretariat where he was assigned to the Office of Legislative Affairs. After serving for a year and a half in this capacity he moved to the Office of the Secretary of Defense for Legislative Affairs where he ably represented the Department of Defense on important intelligence issues until his retirement today. John's support of the Congress and in particular to the House Permanent Select

Committee on Intelligence, which I chair, has been commendable. We understand the importance of the challenges imposed by legislative liaison. Colonel Nichols met them with frankness and aplomb. His expertise will truly be missed.

Colonel Nichol's military awards include the Defense Superior Service Medal, the Meritorious Service Medal, the Air Medal, the Aerial Achievement Medal, the Air Force Commendation Medal, the Air Force Achievement Medal, the National Defense Service Medal, the South West Asia Service Medal with campaign star, and several unit commendations and service ribbons. John is married and resides with his wife Wil and daughters Sarah and Rachel in Woodbridge, VA.

Our Nation, the Department of Defense, the U.S. Air Force, and his family can truly be proud of the colonel's many accomplishments. A man of extraordinary talent and integrity is rare indeed. While his honorable service will be genuinely missed in the Department of Defense, it gives me great pleasure to recognize Col. John Nichols before my colleagues and wish him all of our best wishes in his new and exciting career.

TRIBUTE TO JIMMY F. BATES

HON. BUD SHUSTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 28, 1996

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I want to bring to the attention of my colleagues the achievements of Mr. Jimmy F. Bates, the Deputy Director of Civil Works for the headquarters of the Army Corps of Engineers. After more than three decades of public service, Mr. Bates is retiring from the Corps.

As the Deputy Director of Civil Works, a registered professional engineer, and the senior civilian in the Corps of Engineers' water resources program, Jimmy's responsibilities include managing, directing, and providing stable leadership for the Nation's premier engineering and water resources agency. The Civil Works Program, with a total annual responsibility of about \$3.5 billion, provides water infrastructure that is essential to America's safety, well-being and economic growth. This thoughtful leader has devoted a career to improving the development and implementation of comprehensive water policy and water infrastructure, ranging from the development of projects to reduce damages from devastating floods and improvements to the national system of inland waterways to the implementation of new environmental authorities provided by Congress.

A native of Tennessee, Jimmy began and spent most of his Federal career with the Corps' Nashville District. He also served in the agency's Ohio River Division in Cincinnati, OH, as well as in the Washington headquarters. In addition, Jimmy had a distinguished career in the Army Reserve, rising to the rank of major general.

Through his extensive experience in the planning and engineering aspects of water resources projects and his numerous leadership assignments, he has earned a reputation of a seasoned professional and an expert in Federal water policy. More important, his dedication, loyalty, and character make him one of

the most respected and emulated leaders in government. Although the Corps of Engineers is losing a paragon of leadership and integrity, the Nation will long benefit from the contributions Jimmy has made to water infrastructure and the development of Federal water policy. He has been a model citizen, soldier, and public servant throughout his career.

As Jimmy leaves Federal service, we extend best wishes to him, his wife Sharon, and their children.

THE ACCESS TO EMERGENCY SERVICES ACT

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 28, 1996

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing the Access to Emergency Services Act. This legislation would require the FCC to establish a framework which would prohibit the blocking of 911 calls placed by cellular and wireless users.

Why is this legislation necessary? In many markets, cellular phone users have been put in jeopardy because they are unable to access emergency 911 help when they were not subscribed to the local cellular company. Fortunately, cellular companies in California no longer block emergency 911 calls.

However, this change in policy did not happen soon enough for a California woman who, in December 1994, was shot and robbed because her calls to 911 on her cellular phone were blocked by the local cellular company.

The irony is, of course, that many cellular customers purchase cellular phones for just these emergency situations. Would they have become customers if they realized they might not be able to reach 911 when necessary?

The FCC is currently conducting a rulemaking on wireless 911 services. I hope the FCC will do the right thing, and address this issue in its rulemaking.

I am introducing this legislation because this issue is too important to cellular users to leave to chance. We must ensure that no one is victimized because he or she was unable to reach 911 on their cellular phone.

These cellular licenses were given to cellular companies in order to develop a new service for the American people. As a member of the Commerce Committee, I take very seriously my responsibility to ensure that the public's airwaves are put to good public use. At the very least, cellular users deserve access to local 911 emergency services.

I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

WESTMORELAND COUNTY ATTORNEYS DO PRO BONO WORK

HON. RON KLINK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 28, 1996

Mr. KLINK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the many attorneys who perform pro bono work in Westmoreland County. These men and women take time out of their busy schedules to help those less fortunate with legal representation.

Pro bono work is essential in our communities. Many people who need representation in this country cannot afford it. Legal service organizations can only help on a limited basis. This is due to a lack of funding which leaves them overworked and underpaid.

Many legal organizations have realized the need for pro bono work and have actively influenced their members to participate. Some States have considered adding pro bono work to continuing legal education requirements.

Pro bono work reflects what is great about our country, giving back to our community—62 attorneys in Westmoreland County are doing just that.

With that in mind, Mr. Speaker, I along with my colleagues in this House would like to show our appreciation to those 62 attorneys for their efforts.

They are as follows:

A.C. Ansani; Bruce A. Antowiak; Brian D. Aston; Lawrence F. Becker, III; H. Reginald Belden, Jr.; Alan K. Berk; Eric E. Bonomi; William D. Boyle; Jennie K. Bullard; David A. Colechia; James B. Crowley; Sandra E. Davis; Anthony W. DeBernardo, Jr.; Patricia A. DeConciliis.

Rhonda Anderson Marks; James A. Meade; Scott O. Mears; James R. Michael; Paul S. Miller, Jr.; David J. Millstein; John M. Noble; Jeffrey A. Pavetti; Richard F. Pohl; Dwayne E. Ross; William A. Ryan; Thomas R. Shaner; Mark J. Shire; Bernard S. Shire.

Michael J. Drag; James M. Duffy; Paul J. Elias; Scott A. Fatur; Karen L. Ferri; Henry B. Furio; William C. Gallishen; Mark S. Galper; Edward E. Gilbert; Barry B. Gindlesberger; Abby S. Harrison; Thomas A. Himler, Jr.; Stuart J. Horner, Jr.; Carl P. Izzo, Jr.; Richard L. Jim; Robert I. Johnston; K. Lawrence Kemp.

Lawrence D. Kerr; Randall G. Klimchok; Maureen S. Kroll; Stephen Langton; Marceline A. Lavelle; Wm. Jeffrey Leonard; Larry D. Loperito; Irene Lubin; Robert H. Slone; Thomas W. Smith; Marvin D. Snyder, Jr.; Mark L. Soric; Margaret A. Tremba; R.E. Valasek; James A. Wells; Ronald J. Zera; Susan M. Zydonik.

A TRUE AMERICAN HERO

HON. FRANK RIGGS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 28, 1996

Mr. RIGGS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor a true American hero, Mr. Arthur E. Lewis. Arthur Lewis now resides at the Yountville Veterans Home of California.

During the trying years of World War Two, Seaman "Art" Lewis was assigned aboard the U.S.S. *Balch*. In the spring of 1942, the U.S.S. *Balch* sailed with Task Force 16. Task Force 16 was a group of ships that launched the successful daylight bombing raid on Tokyo by General Doolittle and his sixteen Army B-25 bombers. The Doolittle raids were an enormous boost to the morale of the American people in the first months of the war following the tragic Japanese surprise attack on Pearl Harbor.

Not long after this important mission, the U.S.S. *Balch* was to again engage the enemy in the pivotal battle of Midway Island. Aboard the U.S.S. *Balch*, Art Lewis demonstrated his gallantry and bravery under adverse and treacherous conditions.